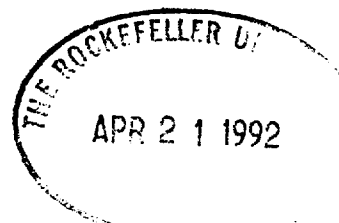


Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
The Rockefeller University  
1230 York Avenue  
New York, NY 10021-6399

April 16, 1992



Dear Josh:

<sup>me</sup>  
~~Sorry~~ memories that bless and burn about your epiphanies at the 1946 meeting at Cold Spring Harbor:

I forget who chaired - might've been some easy-going yet competent worthy - e.g. Demeretz? You broke into just about every discussion; I don't recall whether you actually interrupted the speakers. Anyway, it was clear that a) you knew your subject; b) on your feet your mind worked damn fast c) if you knew anything about genteel academic-scientific protocol, such niceties didn't inhibit. After several bravura (semi-filibuster?) dominations of the discussions of several papers, the proceedings having been taken over by you, the chair announced - coming to terms with reality - that he was appointing you honorary chairman of the Meeting. At this, you looked a bit startled, slowed up momentarily, then went on as before.

At the 1948 Cold Spring Harbor potlatch, I gave a paper describing how streptomycin, to employ your felicitous phrase, Cured Euglena of its chloroplasts. Anyway, in this remarkably brief interval, you'd become ESTBLISHMENT!

Me in 1992: I've a Brazilian lower trypanosomatid which, when cured of its bacterium-like endosymbiont (one per cell, when the flagellate divides, the symbiont divides). The cured strain requires a remarkbly high concentration of nicotinamide, which you may be aware, is shed, perhaps stoichiometrically, when poly(ADP-ribose) synthetase goes into action. As discussed in Nature (March 26, '92 issue: Satoh & Lundall: Role of poly (ADP-ribose) formation in DNA repair. pp. 35608,

( This system may be the most important for DNA repair.

We may be slithering towards each other's turf!

Best wishes,



Seymour H. Hutner  
Haskins Professor Emeritus-in-Residence